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on Nov. 8, 2001
By Lee S. Cohen

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. S-3-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
RONALD A. UNDERWOOD et al.)
Application No.: 09/512,742)
Filed: February 24, 2000)
For: METHODS FOR ELECTROSURGICAL)
TISSUE CONTRACTION WITHIN THE SPINE)
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)

Examiner: Lee S. Cohen

Art Unit: 3739

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RECEIVED
JAN 16 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

In response to the Office Action mailed September 14, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

1. Please enter the following amended paragraph on page 42, line 35:

As shown in Fig. 34, the distal portion of shaft 702 is introduced anteriorly through a small percutaneous penetration into the annulus fibrosus 710 of the target spinal disc. To facilitate this process, the distal end of shaft 702 may taper down

01/11/2002 CCHAU1 0000019 500359 09512742

01 FC:203 72.00 CH
02 FC:202 42.00 CH

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